

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of) **MAIL STOP AMENDMENT**
Takahiro Nagaoka et al.)
Application No.: 10/550,595) Group Art Unit: 3725
Filed: June 22, 2006) Examiner: Teresa Bonk
For: REINFORCING BAR BINDER, WIRE) Confirmation No.: 1363
REEL AND METHOD FOR)
IDENTIFYING WIRE REEL)
)
)

FOURTH INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure as set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, the accompanying information is being submitted in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98.

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.98, a copy of each of the cited documents, other than U.S. patents and U.S. patent application publications, is enclosed.

The documents are being submitted after a first Office Action on the merits but prior to the closing of prosecution, therefore under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c), the fee of \$ 180 as set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is enclosed.

The Examiner's attention is directed to copending application number 12/269,283, (Pub. No. 2009/0126824) naming Yasushi Nakagawa et al. as inventors and filed on November 12, 2008. The copending application and the documents of record in the copending application not already cited in the present application are listed on the attached form PTO-1449. Since the copending application is available in the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system, a copy of the copending application is not required to be submitted. By citation to the copending application, confidentiality is not waived and the Office is requested to maintain the confidentiality of the copending application under 35 U.S.C. § 122.

The relevance of SU 1687673 can be determined from the drawings therein.

To assist the Examiner, the documents are listed on the attached form PTO-1449. It is respectfully requested that an Examiner initialed copy of this form be returned to the undersigned.

The Director is hereby authorized to charge any appropriate fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16, 1.17 and 1.21 that may be required by this paper, and to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 02-4800.

Respectfully submitted,

BUCHANAN INGERSOLL & ROONEY PC

Date: October 23, 2009

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